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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method for providing remote access to a communication device, such as a telephone. In accordance with one aspect of the invention, the system includes a telephone, and a receiver provided at the telephone for receiving data transmitted via a electromagnetic waves. Although not necessary for the invention, in a preferred the telephone includes a card reader for receiving and reading magnetically encoded cards. The system of the invention further includes a remote access unit having a memory configured to store user identification data and a low-power transmitter adapted to transmit the user identification data to the receiver. The remote access unit is manually operated by a transmit button, which, when depressed, causes a controller to retrieve user identification data from the memory and transmit the user identification data from the low-power transmitter.